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MINUTES

OF THE

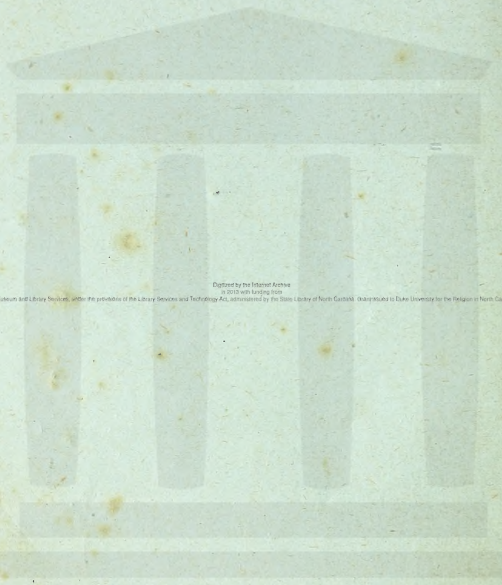
QUARTERLY MEETINGS

OF THE

Gray's Creek Baptist S. S. Union.

ALEXANDER GILMORE, PRES. . . . Gray's Creek, N. C.
R. A. BRYANT, VICE-PRESIDENT Brunt's, N. C.
W. S. SMITH, SECRETARY Shannon, N. C.
ALEXANDER AUSLEY, TREAS., Lumber Branch, N. C.

RALEIGH :
EDWARDS & BROUGHTON, PRINTERS.
1889.



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PROCEEDINGS.

FIRST MEETING.

ST. JOHN'S CHURCH, SHANNON, N. C.,
January 29, 1888.

According to previous appointment, the Gray's Creek Sunday-school Union met in its first meeting with the church of St. John at Shannon, N. C., President A. Gilmore presiding.

The session was called to order by singing hymn "Amazing grace," &c., after which the roll was called, and a majority being present, the Union went forward to transact its appropriate business.

Minutes of previous session were read and approved, with corrections.

By a motion, letters were called for and read, as follows: St. John's, Second New Light, Beauty Spot, Spring Hill, Gray's Creek, Mt. Pisgah, Savannah, Swann's Creek, Pleasant Grove, Bright Hope and Sandy Plain.

On motion that the doors be opened for newly organized Sunday-schools seeking to become members of this Union, Charlotte White Sunday-school came forward with a letter carried by the delegate, R. S. Bryant; after an examination of its organization, was received and the right hand of fellowship extended to the delegate.

On motion, that all the Sunday-schools that have asked aid of this Union for books, be supplied with suitable ones.

On motion, that this Union purchase 100 copies of Sunday-school opening helps and reviews. Collection \$4.58.

Sandy Ausley and James Hughes were appointed to bring in queries before the Union for discussion at next meeting.

On motion, W. S. Smith and A. Gilmore give lectures to the Sunday-school at next meeting.

On motion, W. S. Smith and Rev. J. J. McDonald were appointed Sunday-school missionaries—W. S. Smith for Robeson county, Rev. J. J. McDonald for Bladen and Cumberland counties; and that they be paid \$1.00 each for their missionary services at the next meeting of the Union.

Brother Edmund Burne having been appointed to lecture to this Union, is absent. Rev. J. J. McDonald was appointed substitute.

The Clerk read the query for debate. What is the duty of Sunday-schools towards each other? The President appointed Rev. J. J. McDonald to open the subject under debate, who was followed by A. A. McNeill, Richard Bryant and others, after which a motion was offered to adjourn to meet at 10 o'clock to-morrow morning.

Doxology sung. Benediction by the President, A. Gilmore.

SUNDAY, January 29, 1888.

President A. Gilmore in the chair. The house was called to order, and the choir sang hymn "Traveling homeward," &c.

Prayer offered, Rev. J. J. McDonald leading, after which the committee on questions of discussion reported as follows: What is Sunday-school missions?

On motion, Mr. G. A. P. Wilkerson, of Fayetteville Normal School, was called on to address the Sunday-school Union. R. W. Robinson led in the address, followed by G. A. P. Wilkerson, who said the colored race is making rapid strides to compete with any other race on the globe. The discussion closed by Rev. J. J. McDonald, who said that religious training is the first work of the Sunday-schools.

Number of schools not represented seven.

Adjourned to meet with church at Swann's Creek, Cumberland county, N. C.

A. GILMORE, *President*.

W. S. SMITH, *Clerk*.

SECOND MEETING.

SWANN'S CREEK, N. C., April 28, 1888.

The Gray's Creek Sunday-school Union met in its second meeting of 1888, President A. Gilmore presiding.

The house was called to order by singing the hymn "Hark, the voice of Jesus," &c.

Prayer was then offered, Rev. J. J. McDonald leading.

The President declared the house ready for business. The roll was then called and a majority of the members found present.

The clerk read the proceedings of the last meeting. The same were received, with necessary corrections.

On motion, the Sunday-school letters be called for and read. Spring Hill, Pleasant Grove, Mt. Pisgah, Charlotte White, Second New Light, Beauty Spot, Savannah, St. John's, Mt. Calvary, China Grove, Bright Hope, Flat Swamp, Gray's Creek, Lonely Hill, Sandy Plain, Turkey Pen, Gum Spring and Swann's Creek.

On motion, that the doors of this Union be opened for Sunday-schools desiring to become a member of this Union, upon which Pleasant View, Shiloh, First New Light and Laurel Hill came forward seeking to become members of this Union. Their organizations were inquired into and found all right, and they were received into the Union as members, and the right hand of fellowship extended to the delegates.

On motion, that all Sunday-schools asking the aid of this Union for books be supplied. After which the local Sunday-school missionaries reported, their reports were adopted and they were settled with for their services.

R. S. Bryant and M. D. Melvin were appointed committee on questions for discussion.

On motion, the following brethren were appointed as writers: Rev. J. J. McDonald, on Sunday-school missions;

A. A. McNeill, on education ; A. G. McDonald, on periodicals ; W. S. Smith, on Sunday-schools. All to report at last meeting of the Union 1888. The pending questions were then discussed :

1. Are all Sunday-school officers responsible for the doctrine they teach ?

2. Are all men responsible for the way they teach their children ?

3. Should men train their children in the knowledge of the gospel ?

The discussion was opened by the Rev. J. J. McDonald, followed by Bro. Ausley and others. The questions were made very interesting.

On motion, A. G. McDonald and A. A. McNeill were appointed to lecture at next meeting.

The house then adjourned till 9 o'clock to-morrow morning.

Doxology sung. Benediction by the President.

SUNDAY, April 29, 1888.

Met at 9 o'clock. The President being ill, house was called to order by the Vice-President, R. W. Robinson, who read the 14th chapter of St. Luke.

Prayer by A. G. McDonald.

Bros. A. Gilmore and W. S. Smith having been appointed at last meeting to lecture on this occasion ; and Bro. Gilmore being ill, his time was given to Bro. Smith, who delivered an earnest lecture on Sunday-schools.

Bros. Bryant and Melvin, committee on questions, reported as follows :

1. What way should children be trained to become most useful ?

2. Who should we have to teach Sunday-school ?

Benediction by the President.

A. GILMORE, *President*.

W. S. SMITH, *Clerk*.

THIRD MEETING.

ST. PAUL'S, N. C., July 27, 1888.

The Gray's Creek Sunday-school Union met in its third meeting, with the church at Pleasant Grove, Robeson county, N. C.

The President being absent, the meeting was called to order by the Vice-President, who read the 28th Psalm. Hymn, "Oh, for a closer walk with God," &c.

The house was declared ready for business, the roll was called and members present answered to their names.

Minutes of previous meeting were read and approved.

Letters from the different Sunday-schools were read, as follows: Savannah, 25c.; Charlotte White, 25c.; Shiloh, 50c.; Gray's Creek, 25c.; First New Light, 27c.; Swann's Creek, 25c.; Pleasant Grove, 25c.; Pleasant View, 40c.; Flat Swamp, 35c.; Second New Light, 25c.; Gum Spring, 25c.; Bright Hope, 25c.; Mt. Pisgah, 25c.; Laurel Hill, 25c.; China Grove, 16c.; Sandy Plain, 25c.; Mt. Calvary, 25c.; St. John's, 25c.; Spring Hill, 10c.; Beauty Spot, 25c.; Lonely Hill, 25c.; Turkey Pen, 10c.; Red Springs, 10c.; Swampville 50c. Mt. Olive not represented.

An invitation was then extended for new Sunday-schools desiring to become a member of this Union, and Red Springs and Swampville came forward and were received.

On motion, that all the orders sent up for books be filled.

The Secretary read the question under discussion, "What is the duty of parents towards their children?" The discussion was opened by Bro. J. Hughes, followed by A. A. McNeill and E. B. Melvin.

The second question, "Who will we have for Sunday-school teachers?" was discussed by Rev. J. J. McDonald, N. B. Peppers and others.

Collection from Sunday-schools \$7.04, by public \$1.26

On motion, Bros. N. B. Peppers and E. B. Melvin were

appointed to select subjects to discuss in the interest of the Sunday-schools at next meeting.

Report of Committee on Sunday-school Interest, to be discussed by Sunday-school Workers.

1. Is the Sunday-school a part of Jesus Christ's mission, and what part?

2. Can one be a good member in the christian church who has no interest in the Sunday-schools?

3. What is the spirit of man?

N. B. Peppers and W. S. Smith were appointed to lecture to the Sunday-schools at next meeting.

The house then adjourned till 8 o'clock to-morrow morning.

Benediction by Rev. J. J. McDonald.

SUNDAY MORNING, 8 O'CLOCK.

The Vice-President being absent at the hour appointed for devotional exercises, the clerk officiated and read the 25th chapter of St. Matthew.

Prayer by A. T. Crofford, after which A. G. McDonald addressed the Sunday-school on duties, &c.

An oration was then read by Miss Lula McMillan, of Swann's Creek, which greased the Sunday-school axle.

Revs. O. Wadkin and A. A. McNeill addressed the crowd with much success, and great efforts were made to create a joint work with the churches and Sunday-schools. We believe the Sunday-school labors to be a source of religious training and teaching, and with this teaching we learn the way to heaven; and when it is learned we can then teach with success.

Adjourned to meet with the First New Light church, Bladen county, N. C.

A. GILMORE, *President.*

W. S. SMITH, *Clerk.*

FOURTH MEETING.

SEPTEMBER 28, 1888.

Met with the church at First New Light, Bladen county, N. C. The Clerk being absent with the proceedings of last meeting, there was no business transacted.

FIFTH MEETING.

GRAY'S CREEK, N. C., December 29, 1888.

The fifth meeting convened with the church at Gray's Creek, President A. Gilmore presiding.

The house was called to order, roll called and a majority found present.

Minutes read and approved.

The time having arrived for the election of the annual officers of the Gray's Creek Sunday-school Union, the following brethren were elected: Alexander Gilmore, President; R. S. Bryant, Vice-President; W. S. Smith, Secretary; Sandy Ausley, Treasurer.

Letters were called for and read as follows: Pleasant View, 25c.; Swann's Creek, 50c.; Second New Light, 25c.; Charlotte White, \$1.35.; Swampville, 25c.; Pleasant Grove, 25c.; Savannah, 15c.; Gray's Creek, 75c.; Sandy Plain, 25c.; Laurel Hill, 25c.; Shiloh, 25c.; Bright Hope 15c.; St. John's, 30c.; China Grove, 10.

An invitation was extended to Sunday-schools desiring to join this Union. None present.

On motion, the orders sent to this Union from its different Sunday-schools for books, be filled.

On motion, that the Treasurer report. (See appendix.)

On motion, that we have \$7.00 worth of minutes printed.

cation Society and its branches. The way is open now. Come one, come all, and partake freely and publish salvation in Jesus's name. Prophets and kings desired this sight long, but died without it. And many of our fathers and mothers, too, have died without the above written.

Whereas the above named periodicals should reach every family that we are surrounded with, be it

Resolved, That each Sunday school of this Union ask public contributions each quarter for the same.

Yours in the work,

A. GILMORE.

REPORT OF COMMITTEE ON THE BIBLE.

The Bible is the infallible word of God, and is profitable for reproof, doctrine and righteousness. Search the Scriptures for eternal life, for these are they that testify of Me. The Bible is the path from earth to glory, and whomsoever will may walk therein freely.

I hope that the readers will prayerfully consider the above words, and will have a Bible day the first Sunday in October next, and that a Bible may be bought and presented to families who may be unable to buy one.

Yours fraternally,

E. Z. MELVIN.

REPORT OF THE TREASURER.

Dear President and Brethren:—I render to your honorable body my report as Treasurer for the past year, as follows :

To amount collected during the Quarterly Meeting	
of the year ending 1888-----	\$25 68
Paid out for books, papers, Minutes, Clerk and Mission	
from October 29, 1887, to August 19, 1888-----	31 54
To balance in Treasury-----	6 00

Yours as Treasurer of the Gray's Creek S. S. Union,

S. AUSLEY.

REPORT OF COMMITTEE ON SUNDAY-SCHOOL MISSION.

We, your Committee on Sunday-school Mission, beg leave to make the following report: We feel that much good has been done by Sunday-school missions. We believe that great good can yet be done by Sunday-school missions in the name of the Lord. We learn that where good Sunday-

school books have been received and distributed in a neighborhood, that a Sunday-school is soon called together. We believe that a Sunday-school Mission Board should be organized in our midst, that we may raise funds for foreign missions. Our labors should not be confined to home. Many of our home Sunday-schools have not books enough to carry on their schools; they should have more books.

May the Lord help us to go forward in the work.

A. G. McDONALD,

J. J. McDONALD,

Committee.

REPORT OF COMMITTEE ON TEMPERANCE.

Your Committee on Temperance beg leave to report: We believe temperance to be a among all Christians, and all should be temperate, but not by moderate drinking. We believe that if there was more temperance taught in our Sunday-schools we would have better schools and larger ones. Man cannot do much good in the work of the Lord with inflamed blood and brain. He must be apt to teach. Much depends on our efforts. If we try, the Lord will help us to do good in His name. Our Saviour taught temperance while on earth laying down the plan of salvation, and added patience to it. We need patience with temperance. We cannot know the way to heaven if we are not taught the way. Children should be taught to be temperate and to fear the Lord our God.

Yours truly,

SANDY AUSLEY.

CONSTITUTION AND RULES.

Union of interest and efforts are elements of successful enterprise.

To encourage among our brethren by all lawful means education, industry, self-reliance and general improvement.

1. This Union shall be known as THE GRAY'S CREEK BAPTIST SUNDAY-SCHOOL UNION.

2. It shall be the aim of this Union to promote the Sunday-school work in education, intelligent piety and Bible instruction for the aged and the young.

3. Every Sunday-school shall be well organized, and shall have a Superintendent and Secretary, who shall be elected by the school.

4. This Union shall be composed of delegates from the different schools, who shall work for the spreading of God's kingdom on the earth.

5. Its design shall be to establish and improve Baptist Sunday-schools in the churches and in destitute neighborhoods of the Union Baptist Association District.

6. The officers of this Union shall be a President, Vice-President, Secretary and Treasurer.

7. It shall be the duty of the President to preside at all meetings of the Union and to decide points of order. In the absence of the President, the Vice-President may assume his duties.

8. The officers shall hold their offices twelve months.

9. The Treasurer shall report annually to the Union.

10. No money shall be paid out of the treasury except by order of the Union.

11. Each school shall be required to forward the sum of one cent per scholar to forward the work.

12. Each Sunday-school shall select its own officers and teachers.

RULES OF DECORUM.

ARTICLE 1. Every meeting for business shall be opened and closed with prayer, either by the President or some one whom he may appoint.

ART. 2. Each Speaker shall rise and address the President on any subject to be discussed, and shall only speak ten minutes, and not longer than five in reply.

ART. 3. No motion shall be debated unless seconded, and no one shall speak more than twice on the same motion without special leave of the Union.

ART. 4. Every question shall be decided by voice.

ART. 5. During the hours of business, private conversation, walking across the house or out, without permission of the President first obtained, shall be deemed a breach of order.

ART. 6. When a question is under discussion, no motion shall be received but to adjourn, to postpone, to lay on the table or to amend.

ART. 7. No delegate shall absent himself from the service of the Union unless he has leave, or is sick and cannot attend.

STATISTICAL TABLE.

SUNDAY SCHOOLS.	SUPERINTENDENTS.	SECRETARIES.	POST-OFFICES.	DELEGATES.	Number Scholars.	Number Teachers.	Number Bible Readers.	Amount sent to Union.	Number Books Used.	Minutes.	Catechisms.	Died.
St. John's.....	W. S. Smith.....	G. R. Smith.....	Shannon.....	W. S. Smith.....	29	4	14	25	40	25	7	-
Gray's Creek.....	A. A. Gilmore.....	M. B. Melvin.....	Gray's Creek.....	A. A. Gilmore.....	56	3	24	-	4	75	-	-
Swann's Creek.....	J. Hughes.....	E. V. McMillan.....	Edonia.....	J. Hughes.....	40	4	15	-	24	50	-	-
Savannah.....	A. G. McDonald.....	D. D. McDonald.....	Gray's Creek.....	T. Byrne.....	74	5	20	15	30	-	-	-
Spring Hill.....	A. Maxwell.....	B. Dixon.....	McNatt's.....	A. Maxwell.....	27	3	22	-	-	-	-	-
Mt. Olive.....	John Caver.....	-	Fayetteville.....	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	6	-
Mt. Pisgah.....	L. Stewart.....	W. Melvin.....	Fayetteville.....	L. Stewart.....	25	-	12	-	-	-	-	-
Beauty Spot.....	D. H. Ray.....	L. McLauchlin.....	Fayetteville.....	A. Ray.....	22	2	18	-	3	-	-	-
Mt. Calvary.....	N. B. Peppers.....	Wilson Gilmore.....	Bunt's.....	N. B. Peppers.....	30	3	10	-	20	-	-	-
Laurel Hill.....	S. A. Ausley.....	J. Shaw.....	Lumber Bridge.....	S. A. Ausley.....	38	-	17	8	-	25	-	-
Swampville.....	R. McLauchlin.....	C. McLauchlin.....	Sherwood.....	R. McLauchlin.....	26	4	5	25	28	-	-	-
Gum Spring.....	H. McKinnon.....	-	Bunt's.....	-	-	-	-	-	5	-	-	-
Flat Swamp.....	F. R. McNeill.....	W. H. L. Jones.....	Idaho.....	J. Smith.....	55	3	10	-	14	6	-	-
First New Light.....	E. Z. Melvin.....	L. M. Dunham.....	Tar Heel.....	T. M. Council.....	48	2	2	-	-	-	-	-
Second New Light.....	R. W. Robinson.....	G. W. Spearman.....	Cedar.....	R. W. Robinson.....	50	5	15	25	18	-	-	-
Pleasant Grove.....	M. McMillan.....	A. McMillan.....	St. Paul's.....	M. McMillan.....	68	4	20	-	18	50	12	-
Shiloh.....	A. T. Crofford.....	-	St. Paul's.....	A. T. Crofford.....	27	-	15	25	-	-	-	-
Lonely Hill.....	H. Melvin.....	B. McKinnon.....	Edonia.....	H. Melvin.....	22	3	10	-	-	-	-	-
Bright Hope.....	A. A. McNeill.....	A. A. McDonald.....	Lumber Bridge.....	A. A. McNeill.....	45	4	30	-	35	15	-	-
Sandy Plain.....	J. D. Davis.....	H. C. McNeill.....	Lumber Bridge.....	H. C. McNeill.....	25	-	12	-	20	25	-	-
Red Springs.....	J. A. McNair.....	J. McSwain.....	Red Springs.....	-	35	4	10	-	25	-	-	-
China Grove.....	E. Z. Melvin.....	A. A. Melvin.....	Tar Heel.....	E. Z. Melvin.....	16	2	1	-	-	10	-	-
Pleasant View.....	A. S. McIver.....	J. T. Sinclair.....	St. Paul's.....	J. T. Sinclair.....	61	-	18	-	-	25	8	-
Turkey Pen.....	J. Inman.....	Jas. Jackson.....	Edonia.....	-	24	2	6	-	10	-	-	-
Charlotte White.....	R. A. Bryant.....	S. J. Culbreth.....	Sherwood.....	R. A. Bryant.....	40	4	22	25	18	110	-	-
There were about 700 books and papers bought by order of the Union from the American Baptist Publication Society in 1888.					923	61	328	148	296	445	31	-

